

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/603,606

Examiner

Andrew Schechter

Applicant(s)

PARK, KI BOK

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the filing of 19 December 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,5-17 and 20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Eric Nuss, Reg. No. 40,106, on 1 February 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 18 has been cancelled.

In the Title:

The title has been replaced with "Liquid crystal display device having venting portions in seal pattern and method of manufacturing the same".

End of examiner's amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3, 5-17, and 20 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not disclose the device of claim 1, in particular the limitation that each of the plurality of venting portions formed at the corner portions of the first and second substrates include a plurality of opposing vent openings [as shown in Figs. 3 and 7]. (U.S. Patent No. 6,678,029 to *Suzuki* discloses [see Fig. 7, for instance] a plurality of venting portions formed in the seal pattern at corner portions, each including a plurality of vent openings, but the vent openings are oriented at right angles to each other, not opposed as recited in claim 1.) Claim 1 is therefore allowed, as are dependent claims 3, 5, and 6.

Similarly, the prior art does not disclose the method of making an LCD of claim 7, in particular the limitation that each of the plurality of venting portions formed at the corner portions include a plurality of opposing vent openings. Claim 7 is therefore allowed, as are dependent claims 8-11.

The prior art does not disclose the device of claim 12, in particular the limitations that the seal has at least one liquid crystal injection hole, and the seal has venting portions at corner portions of the substrates, each aligned in a direction of the corner. (*Asakura* does not disclose an injection hole, and *Suzuki*, for instance, which does disclose an injection hole, does not disclose venting portions at each corner aligned in a direction of a corner.) Claim 12 is therefore allowed, as are dependent claims 13-15.

The prior art does not disclose the method of claim 16, in particular the limitations that the seal has venting portions at each corner, each aligned in a direction of a corner, and also at least one liquid crystal injection hole. (*Asakura* does not disclose an

Art Unit: 2871

injection hole, and *Suzuki*, for instance, which does disclose an injection hole, does not disclose venting portions at each corner aligned in a direction of a corner.) Claim 16 is therefore allowed, as are dependent claims 17 and 20.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Schechter whose telephone number is (571) 272-2302. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andrew Schechter
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Primary Examiner
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1 February 2006